

cANIMIDA Task Order 7 Monitoring Indicator Matrix for Decision Making
(Continuing ANIMIDA Task Order 4)

MMS Issue Addressed	Monitoring Hypotheses	Methods	Key Monitoring Result or Parameter for Decision Making
Will OCS oil development activities at Northstar and/or Liberty result in changes to bowhead whale subsistence hunting or hunting success at Cross Island?	<p>H1: Subsistence whaling activity and behaviors in the vicinity of Cross Island are not significantly changed by offshore oil developments at Northstar and/or Liberty/</p> <p>H2: General subsistence activities on and near Cross Island are not significantly changed by oil and gas activities associated with Northstar and/or Liberty.</p>	<p>Systematic retrospective (2000, prior years as possible) and observational/interview data collection (2001-2006) on : (a) number of whales taken, (b) GPS location of whale strikes (direction and distance from Cross Island), (c) number of crews, composition of crews, total number of crew, (d) periodic “census” of whaling participants on Cross Island, (e) duration of whaling (days of active whaling), (f) timing of whaling, (g) length of trips and area searched while whaling (possible GPS track), (h) “catch per unit effort,” (i) observations of whaling participants.</p> <p>Systematic retrospective and observational/interview data collection on: (a) Non-whaling subsistence activities on and near Cross Island (who, what, where, when), (b) observations of local subsistence users.</p> <p>NOTE: Systematic observation and recording of weather and ice conditions will also be required, as they directly affect the subsistence behavior in question. Detailed information about industry activities at Northstar and Liberty will also need to be available, but are not part of this data collection. Will also need to consider informant explanations for changes in behavioral patterns.</p>	<p>Annual tabular information on harvest levels and locations of subsistence resources taken on or near Cross Island. Hard copy map appended as required for clarification of location information. Annual tabular summary of people involved in whaling – number of crews, size of each crew, number of active days whaling, number of crews/people present each day, estimation of total effort. Annual tabular summary of people involved in other subsistence activities – number of people each day for each activity, estimation of total effort. Annual narrative summary of Cross Island whaling season and associated subsistence activities. Contractor will alert MMS COTR of any important trends or changes.</p>